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Docket No. <u>1004451.001US</u>

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s):

Naoko Horikoshi

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Khatol S. Shahnan Shah

For:

METHOD OF MULTIPLEX MICROORGANISM DETECTION

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Final Official Action dated November 12, 2011, the applicant(s) respectfully requests reconsideration in view of the following amendments and remarks.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 5 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including (1) Exhibit A, and (2) Exhibit B is attached following page 12 of this paper.